

REMARKS

The Final Office Action dated May 16, 2005 has been considered. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Summary of the Final Office Action

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatano et al. (EP 0-935-123) (hereinafter “Hatano”) in view of Halstead-Nussloch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,337,347) (hereinafter “Halstead-Nussloch”).

Claims 1-11 and 14 are allowed.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have canceled claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 15-24 are presented to differently describe embodiments of the instant application’s disclosure. Accordingly, claims 15-24 are currently pending for consideration.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatano in view of Halstead-Nussloch. Applicants have canceled rejected claims 12 and 13 without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering the rejection of these claims moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

All Currently Pending Claims are in Condition for Allowance

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 1-11 and 14 are allowed. In the Examiner’s statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter, it is noted that the applied Hatano reference “doesn’t teach where a facility name satisfying narrow-down condition

is extracted from one name identified as area name or classified name as recited in the claims.”

Claims 1-11 and 14 have now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In their place, new claims 15-24 are presented in the instant Preliminary Amendment in RCE. It is respectfully submitted that these newly-presented claims are also in condition for allowance for similar reasons as claims 1-11 and 14. For example, each of newly-added independent claims 15 and 24 include the features discussed above with regard to the Examiner’s statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter of the previously-allowed claims. The new dependent claims 16-23 are in condition for allowance at least because of their dependence on independent claim 15, and the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims 15-24 are in condition for allowance, and a notice of such is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants’ undersigned representative to expedite the prosecution.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required,

including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP



Paul A. Fournier

Registration No. 41,023

Dated: September 14, 2005

Customer No. 023973
DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005-1209
Tel: (202) 842-8800
Fax: (202) 842-8465